

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 IO-04 NIC-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-06 SAM-01

OMB-01 AID-05 EB-04 TRSE-00 INT-05 MC-01 STR-01 /099 W

----- 122822

R 251300Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0206

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

CINCLANT POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1599

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR MARR EIND PGOV GV UR CH DM

SUBJECT : FURTHER CONTACTS WITH CHINESE AMBASSADOR

REF: CONAKRY 1544

1. CHINESE AMBASSADOR CHIEN CHI-CHIEN "RETURNED MY CALL" AT THE RESIDENCE ON OCTOBER 24. FOLLOWING WERE PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS RAISED.

2. BAUXITE PRICE INCREASES: CHIEN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RECENT CBG EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AND INQUIRED PARTICULARLY WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF BAUXITE. HE ALSO ASKED WHETHER INCREASES EXPECTED IN PRICE OF ALUMINA FROM FRIGUIA. CHIEN SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT SOVIETS AND GUINEANS NOW DISCUSSING BAUXITE PRICE, WITH GUINEANS REPORTEDLY SEEKING SIZEABLE INCREASE. I SAID PRICE HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED DURING CBG BOARD MEETING, PERHAPS BECAUSE COMPLETE FINANCIAL FIGURES FOR FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION WERE NOT READY. FINANCIAL SIT-  
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UATION AND CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT SPECIAL MEETING

NEXT FEBRUARY. ADDED THAT FRIGUIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULED TENTATIVELY FOR MID-NOVEMBER, BUT I DID NOT KNOW WHETHER PRICE WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THAT TIME.

3. SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE: CHIEN SAID HE HEARD THAT AMERICANS HAD VISITED GUINEAN COASTAL ISLANDS TWO WEEKS AGO, AND HE WONDERED WHETHER THEY HAD NOTICED ANY SIGN OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY FOR A NAVAL BASE. I REPLIED THAT AMERICANS HAD GONE TO KASSA ISLAND, FROM WHICH IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE HAPPENING ON TAMARA ISLAND. CHIEN SAID THAT ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO A "SMALL-SIZED" RUSSIAN WARSHIP WAS SEEN ANCHORED OFF TAMARA. THIS SHOWED CONTINUED SOVIET PRESENCE AND INTEREST BUT CLEARLY THE ABSENCE OF ANY DOCKING FACILITIES. I SUGGESTED THAT GUINEA WOULD PROBABLY BE LESS DEPENDENT ON THE SOVIETS IF OTHERS WERE WILLING TO ASSIST WITH WHAT GUINEA CONSIDERS TO BE MATTERS OF CRITICAL NEED. I INQUIRED WHETHER THE CHINESE HAD ANY PLANS FOR INCREASING ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA AT THIS TIME. CHIEN REPLIED, "WE WILL SEE".

4. GUINEAN MINISTER'S MOVE TO DAHOMEY: CHIEN SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN AND KNOWLEDGE OF RECENT TRANSFER OF GUINEAN INFORMATION MINISTER BEHANZIN TO DAHOMEY (CONAKRY 1580). HE SAID THERE WERE VARIED REPORTS ON WHETHER BEHANZIN WOULD STAY FOR ONLY THREE MONTHS AND RETURN TO GUINEA OR WHETHER HE WOULD STAY PERMANENTLY WITH OR WITHOUT A BRIEF RETURN TO CONAKRY. CHIEN MENTIONED HAVING HEARD REPORTS THAT BEHANZIN HAD SOME OPPOSITION WITHIN THE CABINET BUT ENJOYED THE STRONG SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE. HE HAD ALSO HEARD THAT BEHANZIN'S RECENT ELEVATION TO THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS AT SEKOU TOURE'S INSISTENCE TO GIVE BEHANZIN INCREASED STATURE FOR HIS TRANSFER TO DAHOMEY. HE SHARED MY VIEWS ABOUT BEHANZIN'S STRONG SOVIET ORIENTATION AND FELT BEHANZIN WAS LIKELY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN DAHOMEY.

5. CHIEN OBVIOUSLY HAS BEEN INTERESTING HIMSELF IN LOCAL PROBLEMS AND PROVED TO BE WELL INFORMED. THE VISIT WHICH LASTED ABOUT AN HOUR WAS PLEASANT AND RELAXED THROUGHOUT. CONVERSATION ENTIRELY IN ENGLISH. CHIEN PROMISED THAT WE WOULD SEE EACH OTHER FROM TIME TO TIME.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**To:** STATE  
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